

CLOSED,FPD

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**US District Court Electronic Case Filing System**  
**District of Utah (Central)**  
**CRIMINAL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 2:25-mj-00316-JCB-1**

Case title: USA v. Ratliff

Date Filed: 03/26/2025

Date Terminated: 04/01/2025

Assigned to: Magistrate Judge  
Jared C. Bennett

**Defendant (1)**

**John Reich Ratliff**

*TERMINATED: 04/01/2025*

represented by **Nathan K. Phelps**  
FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER  
DISTRICT OF UTAH  
46 W BROADWAY STE 110  
SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84101  
(801)524-4010  
Email: [nathan\\_phelps@fd.org](mailto:nathan_phelps@fd.org)  
*LEAD ATTORNEY*  
*ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED*  
*Designation: Public Defender or Community*  
*Defender Appointment*  
*Bar Number:*  
*Bar Status: Federal*

**Pending Counts**

None

**Disposition**

**Highest Offense Level (Opening)**

None

**Terminated Counts**

None

**Disposition**

**Highest Offense Level**  
**(Terminated)**

None

**Complaints**

**Disposition**

/

**Plaintiff****USA**

represented by **Carlos A. Esqueda**  
 US ATTORNEY'S OFFICE  
 111 S MAIN ST STE 1800  
 SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84111-2176  
 (801) 524-5682  
 Email: [carlos.esqueda@usdoj.gov](mailto:carlos.esqueda@usdoj.gov)  
**LEAD ATTORNEY**  
**ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED**  
*Designation: Assistant US Attorney*  
*Bar Number: 5386*  
*Bar Status: Federal*

Date Filed	#	Docket Text
03/26/2025	<u>1</u>	Arrest (Rule 5) of John Reich Ratliff Warrant out of the USDC Central District of California. Assigned to Magistrate Judge Jared C. Bennett (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Warrant)(reb) (Entered: 03/26/2025)
03/26/2025	2	<b>ORDER SETTING HEARING OR TRIAL as to John Reich Ratliff.</b>  <b>Initial Appearance – Rule 5 set for 3/27/2025 at 11:30 AM in Rm 8.400 before Magistrate Judge Jared C. Bennett.</b>  <b>Signed by Magistrate Judge Jared C. Bennett on 3/26/2025.(reb) (Entered: 03/26/2025)</b>
03/27/2025	3	<b>AMENDED ORDER SETTING HEARING OR TRIAL as to John Reich Ratliff.</b> <b>Initial Appearance – Rule 5 set refor 4/1/2025 at 11:00 AM in Rm 8.400 before Magistrate Judge Dustin B. Pead. Signed by Magistrate Judge Jared C. Bennett on 3/27/25.(ksm) (Entered: 03/27/2025)</b>
03/28/2025	<u>4</u>	MOTION for Writ of Habeas Corpus ad prosequendum by USA as to John Reich Ratliff. (alf) (Entered: 03/28/2025)
03/28/2025	5	<b>DOCKET TEXT ORDER granting <u>4</u> Motion for Writ of Habeas Corpus ad prosequendum as to John Reich Ratliff (1). Signed by Magistrate Judge Jared C. Bennett on 3/28/2025. No attached document. (alf) (Entered: 03/28/2025)</b>
03/28/2025	<u>6</u>	Writ of Habeas Corpus ad Prosequendum Issued as to John Reich Ratliff for 4/1/2025 11:00 a.m. before Magistrate Judge Dustin B. Pead. (alf) (Entered: 03/28/2025)
03/31/2025	<u>9</u>	MOTION for Writ of Habeas Corpus ad prosequendum by USA as to John Reich Ratliff. (alf) (Entered: 04/01/2025)
03/31/2025	10	<b>DOCKET TEXT ORDER granting <u>9</u> Motion for Writ of Habeas Corpus ad prosequendum as to John Reich Ratliff (1). Signed by Magistrate Judge Jared C. Bennett on 3/31/2025. No attached document. (alf) (Entered: 04/01/2025)</b>
03/31/2025	<u>11</u>	Writ of Habeas Corpus ad Prosequendum Issued as to John Reich Ratliff for 4/1/2025 11:00 a.m. before Magistrate Judge Dustin B. Pead. (alf) (Entered: 04/01/2025)

04/01/2025	<u>7</u>	<b>**RESTRICTED – Level 2**</b> PRETRIAL SERVICES REPORT as to John Reich Ratliff (bos) (Entered: 04/01/2025)
04/01/2025	12	Minute Entry for proceedings held before Magistrate Judge Dustin B. Pead: Initial Appearance in Rule 5/5.1 Proceedings as to John Reich Ratliff held on 4/1/2025. Defendant present with counsel and in custody. Rights and penalties are explained. Defendant moves for counsel be appointed. Financial affidavit submitted and reviewed by the Court. The Court grants the motion and appoints FPD counsel, Nathan Phelps. Waiver of Identity Hearing is entered on the record. Defendant submits to the issue of detention for resolution in the charging district. For the reasons stated on the record, the Court orders defendant detained in USMS custody for transportation to the Central District of California. Attorney for Plaintiff: Carlos Esqueda, Attorney for Defendant: Nathan Phelps, FPD. Interpreter: Not Needed. Probation Officer: Eli Ernst. Recording: Electronic. (Time Start: 11:05:22, Time End: 11:08:46, Room 8.400). (tls) (Entered: 04/01/2025)
04/01/2025	13	Oral MOTION to Appoint Counsel filed by John Reich Ratliff. (tls) (Entered: 04/01/2025)
04/01/2025	14	<b>DOCKET TEXT ORDER APPOINTING FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER as to John Reich Ratliff Nathan K. Phelps for John Reich Ratliff appointed. No attached document.</b>  <b>Representation shall continue for any post–sentencing activities initiated by the US Probation Office. Signed by Magistrate Judge Dustin B. Pead on 04/01/2025. (tls) (Entered: 04/01/2025)</b>
04/01/2025	<u>15</u>	<b>**RESTRICTED – Level 3**</b> CJA 23 Financial Affidavit filed by John Reich Ratliff (tls) (Entered: 04/01/2025)
04/01/2025	<u>16</u>	WAIVER of Rule 5(c)(3) Hearing by John Reich Ratliff (tls) (Entered: 04/01/2025)
04/01/2025	<u>17</u>	<b>COMMITMENT TO ANOTHER DISTRICT as to John Reich Ratliff. Defendant committed to District of Central District of California. Signed by Magistrate Judge Dustin B. Pead on 04/01/2025.(tls) (Entered: 04/01/2025)</b>

AO 91 (Rev. 11/11) Criminal Complaint

<b>LODGED</b>
CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT
<b>03/18/2025</b>
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
BY: _____ MC _____ DEPUTY

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

Central District of California



<b>FILED</b>
CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT
<b>03/18/25</b>
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
BY: _____ KC _____ DEPUTY

United States of America

v.

John Reich Ratliff

Case No.

5:25-mj-00137-DUTY

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Defendant(s)*

**CRIMINAL COMPLAINT BY TELEPHONE OR OTHER RELIABLE ELECTRONIC MEANS**

I, the complainant in this case, state that the following is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

On or about the date(s) of November 4, 2020 in the county of San Bernardino in the  
Central District of California, the defendant(s) violated:

*Code Section*

18 U.S.C. Section 1542

*Offense Description*

False Statement in Application for a Passport.

This criminal complaint is based on these facts:

See attached affidavit.

☒ Continued on the attached sheet.

/s/

*Complainant's signature*

David Collier, Special Agent

*Printed name and title*

Attested to by the applicant in accordance with the requirements of Fed. R. Crim. P. 4.1 by telephone.

Date: March 18, 2025
*Judge's signature*City and state: Riverside, California

Honorable Sheri Pym, Magistrate Judge

*Printed name and title*

AUSA: Peter Dahlquist; Miles Robi

**AFFIDAVIT**

I, David Collier, being duly sworn, declare and state as follows:

**I. PURPOSE OF AFFIDAVIT**

1. This affidavit is made in support of a criminal complaint and arrest warrant against John Reich Ratliff ("RATLIFF"), who submitted a passport application in the name of "Michael John Johannes" on November 4, 2020, for a violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1542 (False Statement in Application for a Passport).

2. The facts set forth in this affidavit are based upon my personal observations, my training and experience, and information obtained from various law enforcement personnel and witnesses. This affidavit is intended to show merely that there is sufficient probable cause for the requested complaint and arrest warrant and does not purport to set forth all of my knowledge of or investigation into this matter. Unless specifically indicated otherwise, all conversations and statements described in this affidavit are related in substance and part only.

**II. BACKGROUND OF AFFIANT**

3. I am a Special Agent with the Department of State Diplomatic Security Service ("DSS"), currently assigned to the Los Angeles Field Office. DSS Special Agents are empowered under Title 22, United States Code, Section 2709 to investigate passport and visa fraud.

4. I have been employed by DSS for two years. Prior to being employed with DSS, I was a Special Agent with the Department of the Army Criminal Investigation Division. I am a graduate of the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center's Criminal Investigator Program, the Department of State's Basic Special Agent Course, and the Department of the Army's Basic Special Agent Course. I receive ongoing training in the laws, rules, and regulations concerning passports.

### **III. SUMMARY OF PROBABLE CAUSE**

5. On November 4, 2020, RATLIFF, purporting to be "Michael John Johannes," submitted Form DS-11, an Application for a U.S. Passport, at the Post Office in Crestline, California. As proof of identity and citizenship as "Michael John Johannes," RATLIFF presented a U.S. Virgin Islands birth certificate and a U.S. Virgin Islands driver's license. From communications with officials in the U.S. Virgin Islands, I learned that both the birth certificate and driver's license were fraudulent.

6. RATLIFF applied for the passport at the same time Kenneth Ratliff applied for a passport. Kenneth Ratliff and RATLIFF listed the same mother on their applications, Yvonne Reich Ratliff. Kenneth Ratliff presented a Utah driver's license as part of the application. While investigating the true identity of "Michael John Johannes," I discovered a booking photograph of RATLIFF from a 2016 arrest in Cache County, Utah. The booking photograph of RATLIFF appears to be the same person

in the passport photograph for the application in the name of "Michael John Johannes."

**IV. STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE**

7. Based on my review of law enforcement reports, conversations with other law enforcement agents, and my own knowledge of the investigation, I am aware of the following:

**A. RATLIFF Applied for Passport and Fraud Prevention Manager Referred the Application to DSS**

8. On November 4, 2020, an individual purporting to be "Michael John Johannes" submitted Form DS-11, an Application for a U.S. Passport with control number 781132563, at the U.S. Post Office in Crestline, California, within San Bernardino County. As proof of identity and citizenship, the applicant submitted a U.S. Virgin Islands Birth Certificate in the name of "Michael John Johannes" with a number ending in 1670 and a U.S. Virgin Islands driver's license in the name of "Michael John Johannes" with a number ending in 896. The El Paso Passport Office Fraud Prevention Manager suspected the driver's license and the birth certificate the applicant provided with his application were fraudulent and referred the case to DSS for further investigation.

9. The El Paso Passport Office Fraud Prevention Manager used facial recognition software to review the passport picture RATLIFF provided as part of his passport application. Facial recognition returned a "positive result" for a picture of "Eugene Schoeman" from a Non-Immigrant Visa in 2005. The passport picture of RATLIFF and the 2005 picture of the Non-

Immigrant Visa does appear to have similarities, including the ears and nose, but the 2005 picture depicts a much younger, thinner man so it is hard to tell whether it is the same person just based comparing the images. Initially, I investigated whether RATLIFF's true name was "Eugene Schoeman," based on the facial recognition result, but during the course of the investigation, I concluded the individual purporting to be "Michael John Johannes" was convicted as RATLIFF in Utah as outlined further below.

**B. Identification Was Fraudulent and Facial Recognition Matches Picture of Non-Immigrant Visa Recipient**

10. The birth certificate and the driver's license list the island of St. John, one of the U.S. Virgin Islands, as the location of birth and residence. The birth certificate submitted with the application listed the "Department of Social and Health Services" and a hospital of "Our Lady of Lourdes." According to the Jose Balado, Department of State, San Juan Passport Agency Fraud Prevention Manager (who covers the U.S. Virgin Islands), the "Department of Social and Health Services" does not exist on the U.S. Virgin Islands and "Our Lady of Lourdes" hospital never existed on St. John. The driver's license RATLIFF submitted had a street number listed on the address, however, according to Jose Balado, the U.S. Virgin Islands does not include street numbers on addresses, only the street name.

11. On December 16, 2020, the Office of the Lieutenant Governor of the U.S. Virgin Islands verified there was no record



of birth for "Michael Johannes" on the island. The verification document further stated the address listed on the driver's license was not a valid address on the island of St. John. The document also stated the name of the medical clinic on St. John was Myrah Keating Smith Community Health Center, not "Our Lady of Lourdes" hospital.

12. As part of the application, RATLIFF provided a photo to be used in the passport along with the completed DS-11.

13. RATLIFF applied for the passport at the same time as Kenneth Ratliff applied for a passport. Kenneth Ratliff and RATLIFF listed the same mother on their DS-11, Yvonne Reich Ratliff. Kenneth Ratliff presented a Utah driver's license as part of the application.

14. While investigating the identity of the applicant who submitted a passport application in the name of "Michael John Johannes," I found a news article with information on an arrest record of RATLIFF. I requested a copy of the arrest record and booking photograph from the Cache County Sheriff's Office. I received a copy of the booking photograph from Janet Baker, Cache County Sheriff's Office Records. The photograph of RATLIFF appeared to be the same individual depicted in the passport photograph submitted with the passport application for "Michael John Johannes":

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*Photograph from 2020 DS-11*



*2016 Booking Photograph*

15. Reviewing the images, the similarities are most apparent to me in the curve of the nose, shape of the nose, the chin, the complexion, and style of the hair.

16. The news article, and subsequent verification through the files of the Utah Identification Bureau, revealed RATLIFF was arrested in 2016. RATLIFF was convicted of felony possession of a forgery device, and misdemeanor failure to disclose his identity and interfering with an arresting officer.

17. I received a copy of the police report related to the 2016 arrest from the Logan County Police Department Records unit. The police report, number 16-L1265, noted the following:

a. A complainant called saying an intoxicated male was knocking and trying to enter the complainant's home. When police arrived, they identified a male on the porch who appeared intoxicated. The man was arrested and searched, which revealed

a U.S. Virgin Island's driver's license in the name of "John Michael Goodson," and credit cards in the name of "Ken Ratliff."

b. The officer knew Ken Ratliff and contacted Ken, who claimed he was a friend of John Goodson. Booking deputies identified the person's real identity as RATLIFF, and a follow up investigation by the investigating officer revealed the U.S. Virgin Island's driver's license did not match the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators ID check guide for the year it claimed to be issued.

c. The officer noted phone conversations between RATLIFF and Kenneth while RATLIFF was in jail, at which time RATLIFF and Kenneth referenced each other as brothers, but RATLIFF told Kenneth to refer to him as John Goodson and say they were business partners.

18. The Utah Identification Bureau files also noted RATLIFF was previously arrested in 2002 for aggravated assault and driving under the influence with a plea of no contest. After the plea of no contest, RATLIFF failed to appear for a sentencing in April 2003 and a warrant was issued for his arrest. There were additional misdemeanor convictions in 1996 for narcotics possession and in 1998 for driving under the influence of alcohol/drugs.

19. The Utah Identification Bureau files also contained an arrest record from 2010 connected to the same fingerprints of RATLIFF, but using a different name. The record indicated the Subject used the name "John Michael Goodson", and he was arrested for hit and run, driving under the influence, criminal

mischief, assault on a police officer, and obstruction of justice. The adjudication was unknown in the document I reviewed. "John Goodsen" is the name provided on the Passport Application as the Emergency Contact.

20. As part of the passport application, RATLIFF also listed a Social Security Number on the application form. The Social Security Administration confirmed the number provided was a valid Social Security Number, however the number was not assigned to an individual named "Michael John Johannes." A search of commercial databases revealed the Social Security Number was also not connected to RATLIFF.

21. On May 23, 2024, I called Yvonne Ratliff. Yvonne Ratliff answered the phone and confirmed that she was indeed Yvonne Ratliff. Yvonne Ratliff then stated that she would hand the phone to Kenneth Ratliff. A person who identified himself as Kenneth Ratliff then began speaking and stated he and Johannes shared the same mother, but further stated Johannes was born in an overseas U.S. territory. Kenneth Ratliff stated he had known Johannes his entire life. Kenneth Ratliff stated he did not know what schools Johannes had attended. Kenneth Ratliff stated he lived together with Johannes for approximately one year in California. Kenneth Ratliff stated he did not know where Johannes was currently living, nor did he know Johannes' phone number.

**C. RATLIFF Runs from Special Agent Who Attempted Interview**

22. On September 11, 2024, DSS Special Agent ("SA") Mark Thornton visited the address RATLIFF listed on his passport application for Yvonne Ratliff. The address was in Tooele, Utah.

23. SA Thornton knocked on the door, and after about 25 seconds, a man opened the door. SA Thornton asked the man if he was Kenneth, and the man stated that he wasn't and started to move backwards. SA Thornton then asked if the man was "Michael," which was the first name listed on the application in the name of "Michael John Johannes," and the man stated that he was Michael. SA Thornton recognized Michael as the same person depicted in the passport photograph that was included in Michael John Johannes's passport application. At that time, SA Thornton did not know the man's true identity as RATLIFF so he addressed him as Michael.

24. SA Thornton introduced himself, presented his government issued credentials, and asked RATLIFF to come out on the porch and answer some questions about his passport application. SA Thornton showed RATLIFF the application in the name of "Michael John Johannes" and asked if it was his application. RATLIFF stated that he did not want to answer any questions because it would just be used against him. SA Thornton showed him his passport picture that was submitted on the passport application and asked if it was him, but RATLIFF wouldn't answer. RATLIFF said he would not answer any questions

because it would be detrimental to the safety of the nation. RATLIFF stated that the highest levels of the U.S. government and the European Union were working on clarifying his situation. RATLIFF stated that anything further could hurt the safety and security of the nation. SA Thornton informed RATLIFF that he had a security clearance so RATLIFF could answer. RATLIFF stated that he had no way of checking the clearance at that time. RATLIFF stated that SA Thornton should reach out to his chain of command as it pertains to RATLIFF and his situation. RATLIFF stated that his story wasn't being portrayed accurately. SA Thornton advised RATLIFF that he was there to get his side of the story, and that this was RATLIFF's chance to tell it. SA Thornton asked RATLIFF to get the contact information for RATLIFF's supervisor, and that SA Thornton would reach out to them to start figuring out his story. RATLIFF went into the house to get the information. At that point, SA Thornton returned to his government issued vehicle and called 911 to request local Tooele Police Department's assistance. While waiting for an officer to arrive, SA Thornton saw RATLIFF running away from residence and heading East towards the backyard and a fence line. SA Thornton did not check the back yard until a Tooele Police Department Officer arrived, at which time RATLIFF was not located in the back yard.

25. SA Thornton approached the house again with a Tooele Police Department Officer, and an individual identifying himself as Kenneth Ratliff answered the door and provided a driver's license as proof of identity. Kenneth Ratliff stated "Michael"

had left. Kenneth Ratliff provided a phone number for "Michael" as a number with a Utah area code ending in 2037.

**D. Additional Research Shows JOHANNES May Have Worked for a Bank Ordered to Cease and Desist Operating Without Authorization**

26. While investigating "Michael John Johannes," I found a California Cease and Desist Order from December 6, 2023, ordering Light Bank and Trust to cease and desist from engaging in the business of soliciting or receiving deposits or transacting business in the way or manner of a bank. "Michael Johannes" is listed as the principal of the entity. According to the order, on or about October 11, 2023, a California consumer visited the Light Bank and Trust website and made an online inquiry about loan options. The next day, a person identifying himself as "Mike Johannes from Light Bank" called the consumer from a phone number with a Utah area code ending in 2037 (and the same number Kenneth Ratliff provided SA Thornton for "Michael") and left a voicemail message stating that he was calling to discussed the consumer's inquiry about interest rates for various loans. He further stated that the interest rate would vary depending on the type of loan and invited the consumer to call him back to discuss the loan and request a digital application.

27. The phone number in the California Cease and Desist Order matched the phone number provided by Kenneth Ratliff as belonging to Michael John Johannes.

**V. CONCLUSION**

28. For all of the reasons described above, there is probable cause to believe that RATLIFF has committed a violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1542 (False Statement in Application for a Passport).

Attested to by the applicant in accordance with the requirements of Fed. R. Crim. P. 4.1 by telephone on this 18th day of March 2025.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'SP', is written above a horizontal line.

HON. SHERI PYM  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE



**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,  PLAINTIFF,  v.  JOHN REICH RATLIFF,  DEFENDANT	<b>WARRANT FOR ARREST</b>  ON COMPLAINT  CASE NO.: <u>5:25-mj-00137-DUTY</u>
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To: UNITED STATES MARSHAL AND ANY AUTHORIZED UNITED STATES OFFICER

**YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED** to arrest **JOHN REICH RATLIFF** and bring him forthwith to the nearest Magistrate Judge to answer a complaint charging him with False Statement in Application for a Passport, in violation of Title 18 United States Code, Section 1542.

REC: BY AUSA [Detention]

March 18, 2025

Date

HONORABLE SHERI PYM




Signature of Magistrate Judge

RETURN		
This warrant was received and executed with the arrest of the above-named defendant at (location):		
DATE RECEIVED	NAME AND TITLE OF ARRESTING OFFICER	SIGNATURE OF ARRESTING OFFICER
DATE OF ARREST		

DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION FOR DEFENDANT CONTAINED ON PAGE TWO

**ADDITIONAL DEFENDANT INFORMATION**

RACE:	SEX: M	HEIGHT: 508	WEIGHT: 170	HAIR: BRN/GREY	EYES: BLUE	OTHER:	
DATE OF BIRTH:  12/11/1975		PLACE OF BIRTH:		SOCIAL SECURITY NO.:		DRIVER'S  LICENSE NO.	ISSUING  STATE:
ALIASES:		SCARS, TATTOOS OR OTHER DISTINGUISHING MARKS:					
AUTO YEAR:	AUTO MAKE:	AUTO MODEL:	AUTO COLOR:		AUTO LICENSE  NO.:	ISSUING  STATE	
LAST KNOWN RESIDENCE:  1598 N. 210 E. Toole, UT 84074				LAST KNOWN EMPLOYMENT:			
FBI NUMBER:							
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:							
INVESTIGATIVE AGENCY NAME:  Diplomatic Security Service				INVESTIGATIVE AGENCY ADDRESS:  Los Angeles Field Office			
NOTES:  <div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">  <div>Picture of John Reich Ratliff</div> </div>							

MIME-Version:1.0  
From:utd\_enotice@utd.uscourts.gov  
To:ecf\_notice@localhost.localdomain  
Bcc:  
--Case Participants: Carlos A. Esqueda (carlos.esqueda@usdoj.gov, caseview.ecf@usdoj.gov, erica.arvizo@usdoj.gov, jennifer.salt@usdoj.gov), Magistrate Judge Jared C. Bennett (utdecf\_bennett@utd.uscourts.gov)  
--Non Case Participants: FPD/CJA Appointment Notice (utx\_appointments@fd.org)  
--No Notice Sent:  
  
Message-Id:6097077@utd.uscourts.gov  
Subject:Activity in Case 2:25-mj-00316-JCB USA v. Ratliff  
Content-Type: text/html

**If you need assistance, call the Help Desk at (801)524-6100.**

**US District Court Electronic Case Filing System**

**District of Utah**

**Notice of Electronic Filing**

The following transaction was entered on 3/26/2025 at 11:54 AM MDT and filed on 3/26/2025

**Case Name:** USA v. Ratliff  
**Case Number:** 2:25-mj-00316-JCB  
**Filer:**  
**Document Number:** 2(No document attached)  
**Docket Text:**

**ORDER SETTING HEARING OR TRIAL as to John Reich Ratliff.**

**Initial Appearance – Rule 5 set for 3/27/2025 at 11:30 AM in Rm 8.400 before Magistrate Judge Jared C. Bennett.**

**Signed by Magistrate Judge Jared C. Bennett on 3/26/2025.(reb)**

**2:25-mj-00316-JCB-1 Notice has been electronically mailed to:**

Carlos A. Esqueda carlos.esqueda@usdoj.gov, CaseView.ECF@usdoj.gov, erica.arvizo@usdoj.gov, jennifer.salt@usdoj.gov

**2:25-mj-00316-JCB-1 Notice has been delivered by other means to:**

MIME-Version:1.0  
From:utd\_enotice@utd.uscourts.gov  
To:ecf\_notice@localhost.localdomain  
Bcc:  
--Case Participants: Carlos A. Esqueda (carlos.esqueda@usdoj.gov, caseview.ecf@usdoj.gov, erica.arvizo@usdoj.gov, jennifer.salt@usdoj.gov), Magistrate Judge Jared C. Bennett (utdecf\_bennett@utd.uscourts.gov)  
--Non Case Participants:  
--No Notice Sent:  
  
Message-Id:6098218@utd.uscourts.gov  
Subject:Activity in Case 2:25-mj-00316-JCB USA v. Ratliff  
Content-Type: text/html

**If you need assistance, call the Help Desk at (801)524-6100.**

**US District Court Electronic Case Filing System**

**District of Utah**

**Notice of Electronic Filing**

The following transaction was entered on 3/27/2025 at 9:41 AM MDT and filed on 3/27/2025

**Case Name:** USA v. Ratliff  
**Case Number:** 2:25-mj-00316-JCB  
**Filer:**  
**Document Number:** 3(No document attached)

**Docket Text:**

**AMENDED ORDER SETTING HEARING OR TRIAL as to John Reich Ratliff. Initial Appearance – Rule 5 set refor 4/1/2025 at 11:00 AM in Rm 8.400 before Magistrate Judge Dustin B. Pead. Signed by Magistrate Judge Jared C. Bennett on 3/27/25.(ksm)**

**2:25-mj-00316-JCB-1 Notice has been electronically mailed to:**

Carlos A. Esqueda carlos.esqueda@usdoj.gov, CaseView.ECF@usdoj.gov, erica.arvizo@usdoj.gov, jennifer.salt@usdoj.gov

**2:25-mj-00316-JCB-1 Notice has been delivered by other means to:**

FELICE JOHN VITI, Acting United States Attorney (#7007)  
CARLOS A. ESQUEDA, Assistant United States Attorney (#5386)  
Attorneys for the United States of America  
111 South Main Street, Suite 1800  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111  
Telephone: (801) 524-5682

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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF UTAH

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,	:	2:25-mj-00316 JCB
Plaintiff,	:	
vs.	:	PETITION FOR WRIT OF
JOHN REICH RATLIFF,	:	HABEAS CORPUS AD
Defendant.	:	PROSEQUENDUM
	:	
	:	

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The United States Attorney for the District of Utah respectfully shows this Honorable Court that the above named defendant, now being confined in the Salt Lake County Jail (ADC), under the authority of the State of Utah, is to appear in United States District Court for the District of Utah before the Honorable Magistrate Judge Dustin Pead on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of April 2025, at 11:00 a.m., in-person appearance on the charges of Passport fraud arising out of the Central District of California and appearing on a Rule 5

hearing and it is necessary that the defendant be present in person on said date, during proceedings, appearances, and final disposition of the case; NOW, THEREFORE, your petitioner respectfully prays that this Honorable Court do forthwith order a Writ of Habeas Corpus Ad Prosequendum to issue from this Court to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Marshal for the District of Utah, or any other United States Marshal, or Agent thereof, requiring him to serve said Writ on the Warden, or Superintendent, or custodian of any place or institution where the said defendant is confined, and requiring said agent, to produce said defendant before the Court on the above stated date for proceedings and appearances upon the charge aforesaid, and to hold the defendant at all times in his custody as an agent of the United States of America until final disposition of the case, thereafter to return the defendant to the institution wherein now confined.

DATED this 28<sup>th</sup> day of March 2025.

FELICE JOHN VITI  
United States Attorney

/s/ Carlos A. Esqueda  
CARLOS A. ESQUEDA  
Assistant United States Attorney



MIME-Version:1.0  
From:utd\_enotice@utd.uscourts.gov  
To:ecf\_notice@localhost.localdomain  
Bcc:  
--Case Participants: Carlos A. Esqueda (carlos.esqueda@usdoj.gov, caseview.ecf@usdoj.gov, erica.arvizo@usdoj.gov, jennifer.salt@usdoj.gov), Magistrate Judge Jared C. Bennett (utdecf\_bennett@utd.uscourts.gov)  
--Non Case Participants:  
--No Notice Sent:  
  
Message-Id:6100631@utd.uscourts.gov  
Subject:Activity in Case 2:25-mj-00316-JCB USA v. Ratliff Order on Motion for Writ of Habeas Corpus ad prosequendum  
Content-Type: text/html

**If you need assistance, call the Help Desk at (801)524-6100.**

**US District Court Electronic Case Filing System**

**District of Utah**

**Notice of Electronic Filing**

The following transaction was entered on 3/28/2025 at 3:48 PM MDT and filed on 3/28/2025

**Case Name:** USA v. Ratliff

**Case Number:** 2:25-mj-00316-JCB

**Filer:**

**Document Number:** 5(No document attached)

**Docket Text:**

**DOCKET TEXT ORDER granting [4] Motion for Writ of Habeas Corpus ad prosequendum as to John Reich Ratliff (1). Signed by Magistrate Judge Jared C. Bennett on 3/28/2025. No attached document. (alf)**

**2:25-mj-00316-JCB-1 Notice has been electronically mailed to:**

Carlos A. Esqueda carlos.esqueda@usdoj.gov, CaseView.ECF@usdoj.gov, erica.arvizo@usdoj.gov, jennifer.salt@usdoj.gov

**2:25-mj-00316-JCB-1 Notice has been delivered by other means to:**



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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF UTAH

---

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,	:	2:25-mj-00316 JCB
Plaintiff,	:	WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS AD
	:	PROSEQUENDUM
vs.	:	
JOHN REICH RATLIFF,	:	
Defendant.	:	
	:	

---

TO: THE UNITED STATES MARSHAL FOR THE DISTRICT OF UTAH, OR  
TO ANY OTHER UNITED STATES MARSHAL, AND TO ANY AUTHORIZED  
OFFICER IN WHOSE CUSTODY THE DEFENDANT MAY BE HELD:  
G R E E T I N G S :

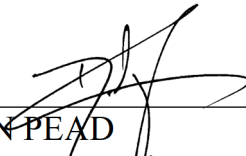
We command you that you bring the body of JOHN REICH RATLIFF, now  
confined in the Salt Lake County Jail (ADC), before the Honorable Magistrate Judge  
Dustin Pead, presiding at Salt Lake City, Utah, on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of April, at 11:00 a.m. in-  
person appearance, of said day, and from day to day thereafter, for purposes of  
arraignment upon the charges pending against the defendant in the said United States  
District Court, and in the above-entitled and pending case; and for final disposition at a  
later date; and hold the said defendant at all times in your custody as an agent of the  
United States of America; that immediately after the conclusion of the proceedings and

final disposition of the above-entitled case in the United States District Court, you return the defendant to the institution where the defendant was confined, under safe and secure conduct, and have you then and there make a return upon this Writ.

DATED this 28<sup>th</sup> day of March 2025.



BY THE COURT:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
DUSTIN PEAD  
United States Magistrate Judge

PS3 (09/20-Rev. for PACTS 11/17)

John Reich Ratliff, / 2:25-00316M-001

In accordance with General Order No. 17-007, in the United States District Court for the District of Utah, Pretrial Services reports are made available to defense counsel and the government at the defendant's first court appearance. Pretrial Services Reports are not public record, are not to be reproduced or disclosed to any other party, and shall remain confidential as provided in Title 18 U.S.C. § 3153(c)(1).

**PRETRIAL SERVICES REPORT**

District/Office District Of Utah/Salt Lake City	Charge(s) (Title, Section, and Description) <b>Count 1:</b> Title <u>18 U.S.C. § 1542</u> - False Statement in Application for a Passport.
Judicial Officer Honorable Jared C. Bennett Magistrate Judge	
Docket Number (Year – Sequence No. – Def. No.) 2:25-00316M-001	

**DEFENDANT**

Name Ratliff, John Reich	Employer Unknown		
Alias(es) Also Known As: Goodson, John Also Known As: Goodman, John Reich Also Known As: Goodson, John Reich Also Known As: Goodson, John M Also Known As: Ratliff, John Also Known As: Goodson, John Micheal Also Known As: Ratliff, John R			
Other alias names listed on the charging document			
Address Unknown	Employer Address Unknown		
Address Since Unknown	Time in Community of Residence Unknown	Monthly Income Unknown	Time with Employer Unknown

**NATURE AND CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE ALLEGED OFFENSE AND ARREST CONDUCT**

On November 4, 2020, the defendant, purporting to be “Michael John Johannes,” submitted Form DS-11, an Application for a U.S. Passport, at the Post Office in Crestline, California. As proof of identity and citizenship as “Michael John Johannes,” the defendant presented a U.S. Virgin Islands birth certificate and a U.S. Virgin Islands driver's license. From communications with officials in the U.S. Virgin Islands, it was learned both the birth certificate and driver's license were fraudulent. the defendant applied for the passport at the same time Kenneth Ratliff applied for a passport. Kenneth Ratliff and the defendant listed the same mother on their applications, Yvonne Reich Ratliff. Kenneth Ratliff presented a Utah driver's license as part of the application.

PS3 (09/20-Rev. for PACTS 11/17)

John Reich Ratliff, / 2:25-00316M-001

The defendant is scheduled to appear on April 1, 2025, for an Initial Appearance on a one count Felony Complaint. He is the only person listed in the complaint.

The defendant was not interviewed in the preparation of this report. U.S. Pretrial Services and the defendant's attorney were in contact regarding an interview and if an interview takes place prior to the scheduled hearing, a verbal supplemental report will be made.

#### **DEFENDANT HISTORY / RESIDENCE / FAMILY TIES:**

The defendant, age 49, was born on December 11, 1975, in Washington. As an interview was not conducted prior to this report being completed, any familial or residential ties the defendant may have to the community are unknown. Also, Pretrial Services is unaware of any meaningful employment or pro-social engagement.

The defendant's current marital status is unknown.

It is unknown if the defendant possesses a passport or has travelled and lived outside of the United States.

#### **EMPLOYMENT HISTORY / FINANCIAL RESOURCES:**

There is no known employment for the defendant at this time.

#### **EDUCATION HISTORY:**

The defendant's highest level of education is unknown.

#### **HEALTH:**

##### **Physical Health:**

The current status of the defendant's physical health is unknown.

##### **Mental Health and Substance Abuse:**

The current status of the defendant's mental health and substance abuse history is unknown.

#### **PRIOR RECORD:**

A criminal record check conducted through the National Crime Information Center (NCIC), state, and local records revealed the following arrest history.

<u>Date of Arrest</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Charge</u>	<u>Disposition</u>
12/02/1994 (Age 18)	Third District Court - Salt Lake; Salt Lake City, UT; Case No.: <a href="#">945035579</a>	<u>Ct. 1:</u> Reckless Driving, Class B Misd. <u>Ct. 2:</u> Operate Vehicle Without Insurance, Class B Misd. <u>Ct. 3:</u> Drive on Suspension, Class C Misd. <u>Ct. 4:</u> License Plate	02/06/1995: Warrant issued, fail to appear 04/05/1995: Warrant recalled, Defendant booked 04/05/1994: Cts. 1-3: guilty; Ct. 2: dismissed; fine 03/14/1996: Warrant issued, fail to appear 04/16/1996: Warrant recalled,

PS3 (09/20-Rev. for PACTS 11/17)

John Reich Ratliff, / 2:25-00316M-001

		Violation, Class C Misd.	defendant booked 06/04/1996: Case closed
The defendant was represented by counsel.			

12/11/1994 (Age 19)	Third District Court - Salt Lake; Salt Lake City, UT; Case No.: <a href="#">941021152</a>	<u>Ct. 1</u> Registration Expired, Infraction Ct. 2: Possession of Controlled Substances, Class B Misd.	12/21/1994: Cts. 1-2: guilty; fine 03/24/1995: Case closed
The defendant was represented by counsel.			

01/27/1996 (Age 20)	North Park Police Department; North Park, UT; Case No.: Unknown	Ct. 1: Littering, Misd. Ct. 2: Narcotic Possession, Misd. Ct. 3: Marijuana Possession, Misd.	Unknown
Attorney representation is unknown.			

03/24/1998 (Age 22)	First District Court - Cache County; Logan, UT; Case No.: <a href="#">981100207</a>	<u>Ct. 1:</u> Fail to Stop at Command of Police Officer, Third Degree Ct. 2: Driving Under the Influence of Drugs, Class B Misd. Ct. 3: Right of Way Stop Sign, Class C Misd. Ct. 4: Speeding, Class C Misd. Ct. 5: Operating Vehicle Without Insurance, Class B Misd.	06/23/1998: Cts. 1-2: guilty CT. 1: amended; Cts. 3-5: dismissed 09/21/1998: 18 months jail; fine;
Attorney representation is unknown.			

07/17/2002 (Age 26)	First District Court - Cache County; Logan, UT; Case No.: <a href="#">021100547</a>	<u>Ct. 1:</u> Aggravated Assault, Third Degree Felony, Class A Misd. Ct. 2: Driving Under the Influence of Drugs, Class B Misd. Ct. 3: Fail to Remain at the Scene of Accident, Class B Misd.	01/10/2003: Cts. 1-2: guilty; Ct. 1: amended; Cts. 3-5: dismissed 04/15/2003: Warrant issued, fail to appear 02/03/2016: Warrant recalled by the court 04/25/2016: 365 days jail, 180 suspended; 36 months
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PS3 (09/20-Rev. for PACTS 11/17)

John Reich Ratliff, / 2:25-00316M-001

		Ct. 4: Right of Way Stop Sign, Class C Misd. Ct. 5: Drive on Wrong side of the Roadway, Class C Misd.	probation 11/23/2016: Warrant issued, fail to comply  Warrant still active
The defendant was represented by counsel.			

05/24/2010 (Age 34)	Unified Police Department of Greater Salt Lake; West Valley City, UT; Case No.: Unknown	Ct. 1: Obstruction of Justice, Misd. Ct. 2: Hit and Run, Misd. Ct. 3: Driving Under the Influence Ct. 4: Criminal Mischief, Misd. Ct. 5: Assault on Police Officer, Misd.	Unknown
Attorney representation is unknown.			

01/25/2016 (Age 40)	First District Court - Cache County; Logan, UT; Case No.: <a href="#">161100083</a>	<u>Ct. 1</u> : Possess Forgery Writing Device, Third Degree Felony Ct. 2: Assault by Prisoner, Third Degree Felony Ct. 3: Interference with Arresting Officer, Class B Misd. Ct. 4: Failure to Disclose Identity, Class B Misd. Ct. 5: Intoxication, Class C Misd.	03/14/2016: Cts. 1, 3-4: guilty; Cts. 2, 5: dismissed 04/25/2016: 5 years prison; 365 days jail; fine; 36 months probation 11/23/2016: Warrant issued, fail to comply  Warrant still active
The defendant was represented by counsel.			

**Traffic Citations**

The defendant has received multiple traffic citations.

**PRESUMPTION OF DETENTION:** In accordance with General Order 17-007, and as permitted in Guide Vol 8A, § 170(e), the Court directs that a Pretrial Services Report shall address rebuttable presumptions and potential penalties. A presumption of detention does not apply. The charged offense appears not to be one listed under [18 U.S.C. § 3142\(e\)\(3\)](#).

**ASSESSMENT OF NONAPPEARANCE:**

PS3 (09/20-Rev. for PACTS 11/17)

John Reich Ratliff, / 2:25-00316M-001

The defendant poses a risk of nonappearance for the following reasons:

1. Criminal History Including Record of Failure to Appear
2. Criminal Activity while under Supervision
3. History of Failure to Appear

#### ASSESSMENT OF DANGER:

The defendant poses a risk of danger for the following reasons:

1. Violent Behavior History
2. Criminal Activity while under Supervision
3. Pattern of Similar Criminal Activity History

**Pretrial Risk Assessment (PTRA):** The PTRA is an objective, quantifiable instrument that provides a consistent and valid method of predicting risk of failure to appear, new criminal arrest, and technical violations while on pretrial release.

The defendant's PTRA Risk Score is 6 which falls within Category 2.

Out of a sample size of 181,739 defendants, 29% fell within Category 2, which predicts that 3% will Fail to Appear, 3% will have a New Criminal Arrest, 5% will either Fail To Appear or have a New Criminal Arrest, 4% will commit Technical Violations, and 9% will have either a Failure to Appear, New Criminal Arrest, or Technical Violation.

The outcomes for the full sample are represented in the table below.

Risk Category	Number of Cases	Percentage of Total # of Cases	Risk Score	Failure To Appear	New Criminal Arrest	Failure to Appear/New Criminal Arrest	Technical Violation	Failure to Appear/New Criminal Arrest/ Technical Violation
Category 1	52,677	29%	0-4	1%	1%	2%	1%	3%
Category 2	52,653	29%	5-6	3%	3%	5%	4%	9%
Category 3	49,920	27%	7-8	4%	5%	10%	9%	18%
Category 4	21,779	12%	9-10	6%	7%	15%	15%	28%
Category 5	4,710	3%	11+	6%	10%	20%	19%	35%
<b>Total # of Cases</b>	<b>181,739</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>The percentage of cases count to have committed a Failure to Appear, New Criminal Arrest, or Technical Violation for each Risk Category based on the total number of cases in that category.</b>					

Pretrial Services Officer Eli Ernest U.S. Probation Officer	Date April 1, 2025	Time 7:36 AM
Reviewed By Zachary C. McBride Supervisory U.S. Probation Officer		

I acknowledge that in accordance with General Order 17-007, in the United States District Court for the District of Utah, defense counsel and the attorney for the government may retain this criminal history attachment of the Pretrial Services Report, and permit staff to review it for purposes of case preparation and guideline calculation estimates. The Court has authorized the U.S. Probation Office for the District of Utah to disclose the criminal history information. It should not be reproduced or re-disclosed under any circumstances. The criminal history information below is the result of a preliminary investigation and is not to be considered complete and entirely accurate at this time. The U.S. Probation Office is not authorized to discuss the information contained in this section with the parties.

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Assistant U.S. Attorney

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Defense Counsel

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U.S. Probation Officer



In accordance with General Order 17-007, in the United States District Court for the District of Utah, defense counsel and the attorney for the government may retain this criminal history attachment of the Pretrial Services Report, and permit staff to review it for purposes of case preparation and guideline calculation estimates. The Court has authorized the U.S. Probation Office for the District of Utah to disclose the criminal history information. It should not be reproduced or re-disclosed under any circumstances. The criminal history information below is the result of a preliminary investigation and is not to be considered complete and entirely accurate at this time. The U.S. Probation Office is not authorized to discuss the information contained in this section with the parties.

### **PRIOR RECORD:**

The defendant reported. A criminal record check conducted through the National Crime Information Center (NCIC), state, and local records revealed the following arrest history.

<u><b>Date of Arrest</b></u>	<u><b>Agency</b></u>	<u><b>Charge</b></u>	<u><b>Disposition</b></u>
12/02/1994 (Age 18)	Third District Court - Salt Lake; Salt Lake City, UT; Case No.: <a href="#">945035579</a>	<u>Ct. 1:</u> Reckless Driving, Class B Misd. <u>Ct. 2:</u> Operate Vehicle Without Insurance, Class B Misd. <u>Ct. 3:</u> Drive on Suspension, Class C Misd. <u>Ct. 4:</u> License Plate Violation, Class C Misd.	02/06/1995: Warrant issued, fail to appear 04/05/1995: Warrant recalled, Defendant booked 04/05/1994: Cts. 1-3: guilty; Ct. 2: dismissed; fine 03/14/1996: Warrant issued, fail to appear 04/16/1996: Warrant recalled, defendant booked 06/04/1996: Case closed
The defendant was represented by counsel.			

12/11/1994 (Age 19)	Third District Court - Salt Lake; Salt Lake City, UT; Case No.: <a href="#">941021152</a>	<u>Ct. 1</u> Registration Expired, Infraction <u>Ct. 2:</u> Possession of Controlled Substances, Class B Misd.	12/21/1994: Cts. 1-2: guilty; fine 03/24/1995: Case closed
The defendant was represented by counsel.			

01/27/1996 (Age 20)	North Park Police Department; North Park, UT; Case No.: Unknown	Ct. 1: Littering, Misd. Ct. 2: Narcotic Possession, Misd. Ct. 3: Marijuana	Unknown
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PS3 (09/20-Rev. for PACTS 11/17)

John Reich Ratliff, / 2:25-00316M-001

		Possession, Misd.	
Attorney representation is unknown.			

03/24/1998 (Age 22)	First District Court - Cache County; Logan, UT; Case No.: <a href="#">981100207</a>	<u>Ct. 1:</u> Fail to Stop at Command of Police Officer, Third Degree Ct. 2: Driving Under the Influence of Drugs, Class B Misd. Ct. 3: Right of Way Stop Sign, Class C Misd. Ct. 4: Speeding, Class C Misd. Ct. 5: Operating Vehicle Without Insurance, Class B Misd.	06/23/1998: Cts. 1-2: guilty CT. 1: amended; Cts. 3-5: dismissed 09/21/1998: 18 months jail; fine;
Attorney representation is unknown.			

07/17/2002 (Age 26)	First District Court - Cache County; Logan, UT; Case No.: <a href="#">021100547</a>	<u>Ct. 1:</u> Aggravated Assault, Third Degree Felony, Class A Misd. Ct. 2: Driving Under the Influence of Drugs, Class B Misd. Ct. 3: Fail to Remain at the Scene of Accident, Class B Misd. Ct. 4: Right of Way Stop Sign, Class C Misd. Ct. 5: Drive on Wrong side of the Roadway, Class C Misd.	01/10/2003: Cts. 1-2: guilty; Ct. 1: amended; Cts. 3-5: dismissed 04/15/2003: Warrant issued, fail to appear 02/03/2016: Warrant recalled by the court 04/25/2016: 365 days jail, 180 suspended; 36 months probation 11/23/2016: Warrant issued, fail to comply  Warrant still active
The defendant was represented by counsel.			

05/24/2010 (Age 34)	Unified Police Department of Greater Salt Lake; West Valley City, UT; Case No.: Unknown	Ct. 1: Obstruction of Justice, Misd. Ct. 2: Hit and Run, Misd. Ct. 3: Driving Under the	Unknown
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PS3 (09/20-Rev. for PACTS 11/17)

John Reich Ratliff, / 2:25-00316M-001

		Influence Ct. 4: Criminal Mischief, Misd. Ct. 5: Assault on Police Officer, Misd.	
Attorney representation is unknown.			

01/25/2016 (Age 40)	First District Court - Cache County; Logan, UT; Case No.: <a href="#">161100083</a>	<u>Ct. 1</u> : Possess Forgery Writing Device, Third Degree Felony Ct. 2: Assault by Prisoner, Third Degree Felony Ct. 3: Interference with Arresting Officer, Class B Misd. Ct. 4: Failure to Disclose Identity, Class B Misd. Ct. 5: Intoxication, Class C Misd.	03/14/2016: Cts. 1, 3-4: guilty; Cts. 2, 5: dismissed 04/25/2016: 5 years prison; 365 days jail; fine; 36 months probation 11/23/2016: Warrant issued, fail to comply
The defendant was represented by counsel.			

FELICE JOHN VITI, Acting United States Attorney (#7007)  
CARLOS A. ESQUEDA, Assistant United States Attorney (#5386)  
Attorneys for the United States of America  
111 South Main Street, Suite 1800  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111  
Telephone: (801) 524-5682

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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF UTAH

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,	:	2:25mj316
Plaintiff,	:	
vs.	:	PETITION FOR WRIT OF
JOHN REICH RATLIFF,	:	HABEAS CORPUS AD
Defendant.	:	PROSEQUENDUM
	:	
	:	

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The United States Attorney for the District of Utah respectfully shows this Honorable Court that the above named defendant, now being confined in the Cache County Jail, under the authority of the State of Utah, is to appear in United States District Court for the District of Utah before the Honorable Magistrate Judge Dustin Pead on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of April 2025, at 11:00 a.m., in-person appearance on the charges of Passport fraud arising out of the Central District of California and appearing on a Rule 5 hearing

and it is necessary that the defendant be present in person on said date, during proceedings, appearances, and final disposition of the case; NOW, THEREFORE, your petitioner respectfully prays that this Honorable Court do forthwith order a Writ of Habeas Corpus Ad Prosequendum to issue from this Court to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Marshal for the District of Utah, or any other United States Marshal, or Agent thereof, requiring him to serve said Writ on the Warden, or Superintendent, or custodian of any place or institution where the said defendant is confined, and requiring said agent, to produce said defendant before the Court on the above stated date for proceedings and appearances upon the charge aforesaid, and to hold the defendant at all times in his custody as an agent of the United States of America until final disposition of the case, thereafter to return the defendant to the institution wherein now confined.

DATED this 31<sup>st</sup> day of March 2025.

FELICE JOHN VITI  
United States Attorney

/s/ Carlos A. Esqueda  
CARLOS A. ESQUEDA  
Assistant United States Attorney



MIME-Version:1.0  
From:utd\_enotice@utd.uscourts.gov  
To:ecf\_notice@localhost.localdomain  
Bcc:  
--Case Participants: Carlos A. Esqueda (carlos.esqueda@usdoj.gov, caseview.ecf@usdoj.gov, erica.arvizo@usdoj.gov, jennifer.salt@usdoj.gov), Magistrate Judge Jared C. Bennett (utdecf\_bennett@utd.uscourts.gov)  
--Non Case Participants:  
--No Notice Sent:  
  
Message-Id:6103068@utd.uscourts.gov  
Subject:Activity in Case 2:25-mj-00316-JCB USA v. Ratliff Order on Motion for Writ of Habeas Corpus ad prosequendum  
Content-Type: text/html

**If you need assistance, call the Help Desk at (801)524-6100.**

**US District Court Electronic Case Filing System**

**District of Utah**

**Notice of Electronic Filing**

The following transaction was entered on 4/1/2025 at 10:12 AM MDT and filed on 3/31/2025

**Case Name:** USA v. Ratliff

**Case Number:** 2:25-mj-00316-JCB

**Filer:**

**Document Number:** 10(No document attached)

**Docket Text:**

**DOCKET TEXT ORDER granting [9] Motion for Writ of Habeas Corpus ad prosequendum as to John Reich Ratliff (1). Signed by Magistrate Judge Jared C. Bennett on 3/31/2025. No attached document. (alf)**

**2:25-mj-00316-JCB-1 Notice has been electronically mailed to:**

Carlos A. Esqueda carlos.esqueda@usdoj.gov, CaseView.ECF@usdoj.gov, erica.arvizo@usdoj.gov, jennifer.salt@usdoj.gov

**2:25-mj-00316-JCB-1 Notice has been delivered by other means to:**

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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF UTAH

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,	:	2:25mj316 JCB
Plaintiff,	:	WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS AD
	:	PROSEQUENDUM
vs.	:	
JOHN REICH RATLIFF,	:	
Defendant.	:	
	:	

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TO: THE UNITED STATES MARSHAL FOR THE DISTRICT OF UTAH, OR  
TO ANY OTHER UNITED STATES MARSHAL, AND TO ANY AUTHORIZED  
OFFICER IN WHOSE CUSTODY THE DEFENDANT MAY BE HELD:  
GREETINGS :

We command you that you bring the body of JOHN REICH RATLIFF, now  
confined in the Cache County Jail, before the Honorable Magistrate Judge Dustin Pead,  
presiding at Salt Lake City, Utah, on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of April, at 11:00 a.m. in-person  
appearance, of said day, and from day to day thereafter, for purposes of arraignment upon  
the charges pending against the defendant in the said United States District Court, and in  
the above-entitled and pending case; and for final disposition at a later date; and hold the  
said defendant at all times in your custody as an agent of the United States of America;  
that immediately after the conclusion of the proceedings and final disposition of the



above-entitled case in the United States District Court, you return the defendant to the institution where the defendant was confined, under safe and secure conduct, and have you then and there make a return upon this Writ.

DATED this 31<sup>st</sup> day of March 2025.

BY THE COURT:



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DUSTIN PEAD  
United States Magistrate Judge



MIME-Version:1.0  
From:utd\_enotice@utd.uscourts.gov  
To:ecf\_notice@localhost.localdomain  
Bcc:  
--Case Participants: Carlos A. Esqueda (carlos.esqueda@usdoj.gov, caseview.ecf@usdoj.gov, erica.arvizo@usdoj.gov, jennifer.salt@usdoj.gov), Nathan K. Phelps (geri\_wynhof@fd.org, nathan\_phelps@fd.org), Magistrate Judge Jared C. Bennett (utdecf\_bennett@utd.uscourts.gov)  
--Non Case Participants: Probation Office - Pretrial (utp\_pts\_ecfnotice@utp.uscourts.gov), US Marshals Office - Criminal Desk (emily.hill2@usdoj.gov, peter.mclaughlin@usdoj.gov, slcusrm.cellblock@usdoj.gov, tesha.hewlett@usdoj.gov)  
--No Notice Sent:  
  
Message-Id:6103707@utd.uscourts.gov  
Subject:Activity in Case 2:25-mj-00316-JCB USA v. Ratliff Initial Appearance - Rule 5/5.1  
Content-Type: text/html

**If you need assistance, call the Help Desk at (801)524-6100.**

## **US District Court Electronic Case Filing System**

### **District of Utah**

#### **Notice of Electronic Filing**

The following transaction was entered on 4/1/2025 at 2:47 PM MDT and filed on 4/1/2025

**Case Name:** USA v. Ratliff  
**Case Number:** 2:25-mj-00316-JCB  
**Filer:**  
**Document Number:** 12(No document attached)

#### **Docket Text:**

**Minute Entry for proceedings held before Magistrate Judge Dustin B. Pead: Initial Appearance in Rule 5/5.1 Proceedings as to John Reich Ratliff held on 4/1/2025. Defendant present with counsel and in custody. Rights and penalties are explained. Defendant moves for counsel be appointed. Financial affidavit submitted and reviewed by the Court. The Court grants the motion and appoints FPD counsel, Nathan Phelps. Waiver of Identity Hearing is entered on the record. Defendant submits to the issue of detention for resolution in the charging district. For the reasons stated on the record, the Court orders defendant detained in USMS custody for transportation to the Central District of California.**

Attorney for Plaintiff: Carlos Esqueda, Attorney for Defendant: Nathan Phelps, FPD. Interpreter: Not Needed. Probation Officer: Eli Ernst. Recording: Electronic. (Time Start: 11:05:22, Time End: 11:08:46, Room 8.400). (tls)

**2:25-mj-00316-JCB-1 Notice has been electronically mailed to:**

Carlos A. Esqueda carlos.esqueda@usdoj.gov, CaseView.ECF@usdoj.gov, erica.arvizo@usdoj.gov, jennifer.salt@usdoj.gov

Nathan K. Phelps nathan\_phelps@fd.org, geri\_wynhof@fd.org

**2:25-mj-00316-JCB-1 Notice has been delivered by other means to:**

MIME-Version:1.0  
From:utd\_enotice@utd.uscourts.gov  
To:ecf\_notice@localhost.localdomain  
Bcc:  
--Case Participants: Nathan K. Phelps (geri\_wynhof@fd.org, nathan\_phelps@fd.org), Carlos A. Esqueda (carlos.esqueda@usdoj.gov, caseview.ecf@usdoj.gov, erica.arvizo@usdoj.gov, jennifer.salt@usdoj.gov), Magistrate Judge Jared C. Bennett (utdecf\_bennett@utd.uscourts.gov)  
--Non Case Participants:  
--No Notice Sent:  
  
Message-Id:6103709@utd.uscourts.gov  
Subject:Activity in Case 2:25-mj-00316-JCB USA v. Ratliff Motion to Appoint Counsel  
Content-Type: text/html

**If you need assistance, call the Help Desk at (801)524-6100.**

**US District Court Electronic Case Filing System**

**District of Utah**

**Notice of Electronic Filing**

The following transaction was entered on 4/1/2025 at 2:47 PM MDT and filed on 4/1/2025

**Case Name:** USA v. Ratliff  
**Case Number:** 2:25-mj-00316-JCB  
**Filer:** Dft No. 1 – John Reich Ratliff  
**Document Number:** 13(No document attached)  
**Docket Text:**  
**Oral MOTION to Appoint Counsel filed by John Reich Ratliff. (tls)**

**2:25-mj-00316-JCB-1 Notice has been electronically mailed to:**

Carlos A. Esqueda carlos.esqueda@usdoj.gov, CaseView.ECF@usdoj.gov, erica.arvizo@usdoj.gov, jennifer.salt@usdoj.gov

Nathan K. Phelps nathan\_phelps@fd.org, geri\_wynhof@fd.org

**2:25-mj-00316-JCB-1 Notice has been delivered by other means to:**

MIME-Version:1.0  
From:utd\_enotice@utd.uscourts.gov  
To:ecf\_notice@localhost.localdomain  
Bcc:  
--Case Participants: Carlos A. Esqueda (carlos.esqueda@usdoj.gov, caseview.ecf@usdoj.gov, erica.arvizo@usdoj.gov, jennifer.salt@usdoj.gov), Nathan K. Phelps (geri\_wynhof@fd.org, nathan\_phelps@fd.org), Magistrate Judge Jared C. Bennett (utdecf\_bennett@utd.uscourts.gov)  
--Non Case Participants: Finance Department (utdecf\_forders@utd.uscourts.gov)  
--No Notice Sent:  
  
Message-Id:6103717@utd.uscourts.gov  
Subject:Activity in Case 2:25-mj-00316-JCB USA v. Ratliff Order on Motion to Appoint Counsel  
Content-Type: text/html

**If you need assistance, call the Help Desk at (801)524-6100.**

**US District Court Electronic Case Filing System**

**District of Utah**

**Notice of Electronic Filing**

The following transaction was entered on 4/1/2025 at 2:49 PM MDT and filed on 4/1/2025

**Case Name:** USA v. Ratliff  
**Case Number:** 2:25-mj-00316-JCB  
**Filer:**  
**Document Number:** 14(No document attached)

**Docket Text:**

**DOCKET TEXT ORDER APPOINTING FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER as to John Reich Ratliff Nathan K. Phelps for John Reich Ratliff appointed. No attached document.**

**Representation shall continue for any post-sentencing activities initiated by the US Probation Office.**

Signed by Magistrate Judge Dustin B. Pead on 04/01/2025. (tls)  
**2:25-mj-00316-JCB-1 Notice has been electronically mailed to:**

Carlos A. Esqueda carlos.esqueda@usdoj.gov, CaseView.ECF@usdoj.gov, erica.arvizo@usdoj.gov, jennifer.salt@usdoj.gov

Nathan K. Phelps nathan\_phelps@fd.org, geri\_wynhof@fd.org

**2:25-mj-00316-JCB-1 Notice has been delivered by other means to:**

CJA-23

(Rev 3/21)

**FINANCIAL AFFIDAVIT**

IN SUPPORT OF REQUEST FOR ATTORNEY, EXPERT, OR OTHER SERVICES WITHOUT PAYMENT OF FEE

IN THE UNITED STATES ☐ DISTRICT COURT ☐ COURT OF APPEALS☐ OTHER (Specify Below)

IN THE CASE OF

FOR

LOCATION  
NUMBER

US v. Ratliff

AT

PERSON REPRESENTED (Show your full name)

John Ratliff

CHARGE/OFFENSE (Describe if applicable &amp; check box→)

☐ Felony☐ Misdemeanor

- 1 ☒ Defendant - Adult  
 2 ☐ Defendant - Juvenile  
 3 ☐ Appellant  
 4 ☐ Probation Violator  
 5 ☐ Supervised Release Violator  
 6 ☐ Habeas Petitioner  
 7 ☐ 2255 Petitioner  
 8 ☐ Material Witness  
 9 ☐ Other (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

**DOCKET NUMBERS**

Magistrate Judge

2:25-mj-00316

District Court

Court of Appeals

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS REGARDING ABILITY TO PAY**

<b>INCOME &amp; ASSETS</b>	<b>EMPLOYMENT</b>	Do you have a job? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
		IF YES, how much do you earn per month? _____	
		Will you still have a job after this arrest? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	
<b>PROPERTY</b>	Do you own any of the following, and if so, what is it worth?		
		<b>APPROXIMATE VALUE</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION &amp; AMOUNT OWED</b>
	Home	\$ _____	_____
	Car/Truck/Vehicle	\$ _____	_____
	Boat	\$ _____	_____
	Stocks/bonds	\$ _____	_____
	Other property	\$ _____	_____
<b>CASH &amp; BANK ACCOUNTS</b>	Do you have any cash, or money in savings or checking accounts? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
	IF YES, give the total approximate amount after monthly expenses \$ _____		
<b>OBLIGATIONS, EXPENSES, &amp; DEBTS</b>	How many people do you financially support? <u>0</u>		
	<b>BILLS &amp; DEBTS</b>	<b>MONTHLY EXPENSE</b>	<b>TOTAL DEBT</b>
	Housing	\$ <u>100</u>	\$ _____
	Groceries	\$ <u>100</u>	\$ _____
	Medical expenses	\$ _____	\$ _____
	Utilities	\$ _____	\$ _____
	Credit cards	\$ _____	\$ _____
	Car/Truck/Vehicle	\$ _____	\$ _____
	Childcare	\$ _____	\$ _____
	Child support	\$ <u>400</u>	\$ _____
	Insurance	\$ _____	\$ _____
	Loans	\$ _____	\$ _____
	Fines	\$ _____	\$ _____
Other	\$ _____	\$ _____	

I certify under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

*[Signature]*  
 all applicable  
 all rights reserved

SIGNATURE OF DEFENDANT

(OR PERSON SEEKING REPRESENTATION)

Apr 1, 2025  
 Date

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the  
District of Utah

United States of America

v.

John Reich Ratliff

Defendant

Case No. 2:25-mj-00316 JCB

Charging District's Case No. 5:25-mj-137

WAIVER OF RULE 5 & 5.1 HEARINGS  
(Complaint or Indictment)I understand that I have been charged in another district, the (name of other court) \_\_\_\_\_  
Central District of California

I have been informed of the charges and of my rights to:


- (1) retain counsel or request the assignment of counsel if I am unable to retain counsel;
- (2) an identity hearing to determine whether I am the person named in the charges;
- (3) production of the warrant, a certified copy of the warrant, or a reliable electronic copy of either;
- (4) a preliminary hearing to determine whether there is probable cause to believe that an offense has been committed, to be held within 14 days of my first appearance if I am in custody and 21 days otherwise, unless I have been indicted beforehand.
- (5) a hearing on any motion by the government for detention;
- (6) request a transfer of the proceedings to this district under Fed. R. Crim. P. 20, to plead guilty.

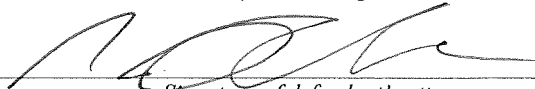
I agree to waive my right(s) to:

- ☒ an identity hearing and production of the warrant.
- ☒ a preliminary hearing.
- ☐ a detention hearing.
- ☐ an identity hearing, production of the judgment, warrant, and warrant application, and any preliminary or detention hearing to which I may be entitled in this district. I request that my  
☐ preliminary hearing and/or ☒ detention hearing be held in the prosecuting district, at a time set by that court.

I consent to the issuance of an order requiring my appearance in the prosecuting district where the charges are pending against me.

Date: 04/01/2025

  
 acc all applicable rights reserved  
 Defendant's signature

  
 Signature of defendant's attorney
Nathan Phelps  
Printed name of defendant's attorney

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the  
District of Utah

United States of America )

v. )

Case No. 2:25-mj-00316 JCBJohn Reich Ratliff )*Defendant* )

Charging District's

Case No. 5:25-mj-137 DUTY

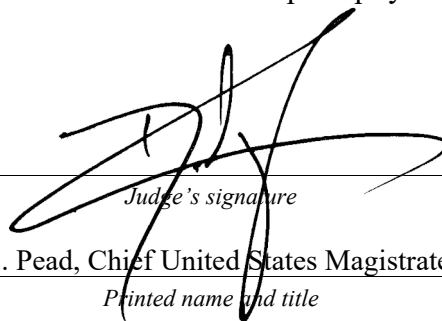
## COMMITMENT TO ANOTHER DISTRICT

The defendant has been ordered to appear in the \_\_\_\_\_ District of California,  
 (if applicable) Central division. The defendant may need an interpreter for this language:  
N/A.

The defendant: ☐ will retain an attorney.☒ is requesting court-appointed counsel.

The defendant remains in custody after the initial appearance.

**IT IS ORDERED:** The United States Marshal must transport the defendant, together with a copy of this order, to the charging district and deliver the defendant to the United States Marshal for that district, or to another officer authorized to receive the defendant. The marshal or officer in the charging district should immediately notify the United States attorney and the clerk of court for that district of the defendant's arrival so that further proceedings may be promptly scheduled. The clerk of this district must promptly transmit the papers and any bail to the charging district.

Date: 04/01/2025


*Judge's signature*

Dustin B. Pead, Chief United States Magistrate Judge*Printed name and title*